

REMARKS

The Examiner's Office Action mailed on October 24, 2003 has been received and its contents carefully considered.

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. Claims 3, 8 and 9 are cancelled without prejudice or waiver, and claims 1, 2 and 6 are amended herein. Claims 1, 6 and 7 remain the independent claims in this application.

In the Action, claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that in the recited limitation "wherein the repetition processing or the deletion processing in the address generation circuit is executed to a rear part of the line of the input data", it is not clear where "the rear part of the line of the input data" is exactly, thus rendering claims 8 and 9 indefinite. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is moot in view of the cancellation herein of claims 8 and 9, which eliminates the allegedly unclear language.

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is being obvious over Hickman (U.S. Patent No. 5,694,432) in view of Wang (U.S. Patent No. 5,796,796). Claims 1 and 2 are amended herein to more clearly distinguish the present invention over the applied references.

The Hickman reference cited by the Examiner is directed to a digital communications system. In Hickman's digital communications system, data is transmitted with a header, so that the transmitted data includes header blocks interspersed with data blocks. The data blocks are disclosed as being of fixed length (see column 4, lines 61-67). In Hickman, the communications system monitors a count signal CNT from a FIFO counter 48 and determines whether a normal header, a long header or a short header should be added to the data by a control circuit 53 (see column 10, lines 54-59). That is, the total length of the transmitted data is regulated, and jitter thereby reduced, by adjusting the lengths of the header blocks. Hickman, however, fails to disclose a selector performing the function of combining the delayed input data to generate combined input data having the standard number of pixels, as amended claim 1 requires. Hickman discloses no change in length of the data blocks at all.

In the Action, the Examiner notes Hickman discloses that the continuous series of data bits which occurs at the input terminal of the transmitter may consist of pixels in successive video frames (see column 21, lines 10-16). However, Hickman provides no suggestion that the pixels or video signal would be treated any differently than the more general data input discussed earlier.

*what? - not
something is not in
claims.*

In the Action, the Examiner acknowledges that Hickman fails to disclose a delay circuit, as claim 1 requires. The Examiner relies on the Wang reference to overcome this deficiency in the disclosure of Hickman.

Wang is directed to a pointer adjustment jitter cancellation processor. Wang does disclose a plurality of delay circuits as pointed out by the Examiner (column 5, lines 48-57). However, in Wang, the delay circuits delay a compensated write clock signal (see column 5 lines 50-52), rather than "delaying the input data with a plurality of delay times so that the delay circuit outputs a plurality of delayed input data" (emphasis added), as amended claim 1 requires. The function of the delay circuits in Wang and the present invention are completely different. It is clear that the combination suggested by the Examiner is not suggested by the references considered as a whole, and even if it were, the combination of Hickman and Wang would not yield the claimed invention.

*it does not matter
what Wang is
directed to.*

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 1, as well as dependent claims 2, 4 and 5, patentably distinguish over the applied references, whether considered individually or in combination.

Claims 6, 7 and 10-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Urbansky (U.S. Patent No. 5,859,882). Claim 6 is amended herein to more clearly distinguish the present invention over the Urbansky reference.

The Urbansky reference cited by the Examiner is directed to a transmission system. However, Urbansky discloses neither a video signal nor pixels. Therefore, the circuit functions disclosed in Urbansky are completely different from those of the present invention. For example, a data analyzer 38 of Urbansky does not count a pixel number, as recited in the rejected claims, but rather evaluates pointer values (see column 8, lines 63-64). A justification circuit 42 of Urbansky does not calculate a difference between a set standard pixel number and the counted pixel number, as the claims require, but rather produces stuffing values (see column 8, lines 67-68).

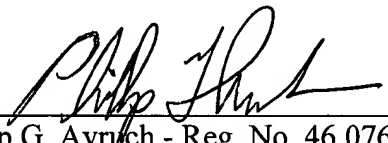
For at least the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 6 and 7, as well as dependent claims 10-13, patentable distinguish over the applied Urbansky reference.

In summary, it is submitted that this Amendment places the application in condition for allowance. Notice of allowance and passing of this application to issue are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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